

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 131145

FOLL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM LUSAKA 30 JUN 73 REPEATED TO
YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1196

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, MOPS, ZA

SUBJECT: MAY 15 BORDER SHOOTING INCIDENT

1. SUMMARY, FOLLOWING UP ON AMBASSADOR' S EXCHANGES
ON MAY 15 INCIDENT WITH PRESIDENT, FOREIGN MINISTER AND
PRESIDENT' S SPECIAL ASSISTANT MARK CHONA, HAVE JUST
RECEIVED LONG LETTER FROM CHONA FOCUSING PARTICULARLY ON
OUR EXPRESSION OF HOPE GRZ TAKING STEPS PREVENT
RECURRENCE SUCH INCIDENTS. BURDEN OF LETTER IS RHODESIANS
AND SOUTH AFRICAN SHOULD BE ASKED TO DO SAME. STRESSES
INEQUITY OF VIOLENT REACTION TO MAY 15 INCIDENT COMPARED TO
INDIFFERENCE TOWARD ZAMBIAN DEATHS RESULTING FROM EXPLOSION
LANDMINES PLANTED IN ZAMBIA BY RHODESIANS AND SOUTH
AFRICANS. END SUMMARY

2. LEADING OFF WITH REFERENCE TO COMPLETE OPENNESS OF
GRZ DURING VISIT OF DRIJBER, FOR WHOM " WE HAVE DONE WHAT
WE COULD AND THAT IS OUR LIMIT" (LUSAKA 1125 AND TAYLOR- LEITH
JUNE 25 MEMCON POUCHED AF/ E JUNE 30). CHONA WRITES ATTENTION
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OF RHODESIANS AND SOUTH AFRICANS MUST BE CALLED TO" DANGERS INHERENT IN THEIR ACTS OF UNPROVOKED AGGRESSION AGAINST ZAMBIANS." NOTED ZAMBIA HAD OF LATE NOT BEEN MAKING PUBLIC STATEMENTS RE LANDMINE INCIDENTS IN ORDER AVOID OVER-REACTION BY POPULATION: " BURDEN OF PREVENTING RECURRENCE SUCH INCIDENTS COULD NOT BE PUT ON ZAMBIA WHICH HAS LOST 20 INNOCENT CITIZENS.. VICIOUS REACTION OF SOME COUNTRIES TO DEATH OF TWO CANADIANS VIS- A- VIS THEIR SILENCE AND INDIFFERENCE TOWARDS DEATH TWENTY ZAMBIANS PAINFUL TO US IN EXTREME... ZAMBIA WILL CONTINUE TO BE A PRIME TARGET OF PRETORIA AND SALISBURY FOR YET A FEW MORE YEARS. BUT WHO IS TELLING THE RULERS OF THESE COUNTRIES TO STOP THEIR ACTS OF COLD BLOODED MURDER?"

3. CHONA THEN ASKS: " ARE ZAMBIANS BEING ASKED NOT TO TAKE MEASURES IN SELF- DEFENSE AGAINST PEOPLE WHO ARE OUTLAWS? .. GREATEST MISFORTUNE IS ISSUE OF FOURTH GORGE INCIDENT NOT JUDGED OBJECTIVELY BUT IN NARROW CONTEXT OF INVOLVEMENT OF CANADIAN AND AMERICAN NATIONS." RHODESIANS AND SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE FREQUENTLY FIRED ACROSS ZAMBEZI AT ZAMBIANS, BOMBED ZAMBIAN VILLAGES, SENT FORCES TO PLANT LANDMINES INSIDE ZAMBIA. IN SOME WESTERN EYES " ONLY WHEN ZAMBIA TAKES ACTIONS EVEN IN SELF- DEFENSE INVOLVING WHITES IN RHODESIA OR SOUTH AFRICA IS SITUATION CREATED WHICH BRINGS SOUTHERN AFRICA TO BRINK OF BLOEXSZV."

4. CHONA ALSO REFERS TO SWORN STATEMENTS BY THE CROTHERS, COPIES OF WHICH WE PROVIDED HIM AND FOREIGN MINISTER (COPY POUCHED AF/ E BURKE). NOTING THEIR EXPRESSIONS OF AFFECTION FOR RHODESIA AND " PRETTY OFFENSIVE" LANGUAGE USED BY JOHN CROTHERS, HE STATES GRZ NOW EVEN MORE SUSPICIOUS ABOUT CROTHERS' ASSOCIATION WITH " MYSTERIOUS" SOUTH AFRICAN WHO ARRANGED TRIP TO RHODESIA. FINALLY, HE ASSERTS RHODESIANS AND SOUTH AFRICANS IN PROCESS OF DIGGING IN AROUND VICTORIA FALLS AREA.

5. DRAWING ON ACTING SECRETARY RUSH' LETER TO FOREIGN MINISTER RUDENDA, AMBASSADOR INTENDS ON APPROPRIATE OCCASION TO RESPOND TO CHONA BY SAYING WE CERTAINLY CONCUR THAT ADEQUATE MEASURES NEED TO BE TAKEN ON BOTH SIDES OF ZAMBEZI TO PREVENT INCIDENTS. WOULD WISH, OF COURSE, TO BE IN POSITION SAY WE HAVE MADE THIS POINT TO SOUTH AFRICANS AND

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THROUGH THEM TO RHODESIANS. WHILE VERIFICATION NEEDED OF ZAMBIAN ASSERTIONS LANDMINE AND OTHER WARLIKE ACTIONS IN ZAMBIA NEAR FRONTIER ARE WORK OF SOUTH AFRICANS AND RHODESIANS, URGE DEPT REQUEST PRETORIA, IN GENERAL INTEREST AND IN INTEREST PROTECTION AMCITS WHO VENTURE INTO AREA, EXPRESS TO SAG OUR HOPE THAT EVERY EFFORT BEING MADE BY SAG AND RHODESIA PREVENT INCIDENTS. COULD INFORM

SAG AT SAME TIME WE HAVE MADE SIMILAR APPROACHES TO GRZ.

6. FOREGOING UNDERSCORES IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO KAUNDA-
UNSYG WALDHEIM DISCUSSION POSSIBILITY OF UN OBSERVERS
TO POLICE BORDER (PARA 2, LUSAKA 1065). IS THERE ANY
MOVEMENT AT UN HEADQUARTERS ON THIS MATTER WHICH GRZ
HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION,?
WILKOWSKI
PNQUOTE RUSH

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